

RON EACHUS

940 Salem Heights Ave. S, Salem, OR 97302

Phone: 503-361-0116 Cell: 503-269-4869 email: re4869@home.com

SUMMARY

Fourteen years as Commissioner, eight as chairman, of a consumer oriented state public utility commission known for its independence and pro-active responses to changes in the industries it regulated...Extensive experience as Commissioner in international exchanges and assistance in developing the framework and capacity for new regulatory bodies in other countries...Additional experience in legislative and public relations arenas

I have worked with members of the Russian Federal Energy Commission and staff as lead Commissioner for the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners' support of the Energy Regulators Regional Association, composed of regulatory agencies from 15 countries, including Russia, in Central and Eastern Europe and Eurasia. In August, 2001, I spent ten days in Moscow as the telecommunications regulatory expert in a four-person USAID team conducting an assessment of information technology in Russia. While there I was able to meet with Alexei G. Karpiouk, Council to the Chairman of the Federal Energy Commission, and Dr. Anatoli G. Boundarev: President of ECFI, auditing consultant to the FEC, two days before the announcement that the FEC would become a unified tariff agency for all natural monopolies.

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Commissioner, Oregon Public Utility Commission: October 1987 – May, 2001

I managed the Commission through the major changes in the energy and telecommunications industries and the concurrent evolution of regulatory debates and alternative methodologies. During my tenure on the Commission, the Oregon PUC became a leader in promotion of energy efficiency and integrated resource planning as well as in development of policies to encourage competition while maintaining the public interest. The Commission was also one of the few states to allow competition for local telephone service and to require the unbundling of network elements before passage of the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996. As spokesperson, I helped educate the public about the issues and consequences of events. As an administrator, I made sure the Commission developed new staff capabilities to reflect greater reliance on developing competitive markets.

Major Accomplishments:

Energy:

- Initiated one of first integrated resource planning processes for electricity and natural gas utilities in the nation
- Adopted alternative forms of regulation and innovative methodologies to provide incentives for utility investment in demand-side management programs

- Restructured rates and provided unbundled services to allow direct access to supplies for large gas customers in 1989, becoming one of the first states to do so
- Enabled economic closure of troubled Trojan nuclear plant
- Instituted high service quality standards with a flexible penalty matrix to encourage compliance
- Promoted legislation and rules for net metering and other policies to encourage deployment of distributed generation of electricity
- Maintained Oregon's position of having some of the lowest electric rates in the nation
- Led Commission development of Oregon's electric restructuring law providing direct access to the wholesale market for non-residential customers and a 3% set-aside of utility revenues for "public purposes," including energy efficiency and renewable energy resources

Telecommunications:

- Established fund for low-income assistance and for a relay service for hearing impaired customers in 1987, before the Americans for Disability Act required it
- Initiated unbundling of network elements for use by competitors in 1990, well before it was required by the 1996 Telecommunications Act.
- Created competitive zones allowing for local exchange service competition and pricing flexibility in 1993, making Oregon one of first states to do so.
- Adopted some of highest service quality standards in the country to maintain service quality during the transition to competition
- Negotiated a price cap alternative form of regulation for the state's largest local exchange company, US WEST (now Qwest), in 1991
- Fought US WEST's failure to meet service standards and provided \$280 million refund to customers
- Chaired coordination committee for citizen based Oregon Telecommunications Forum to develop strategy for advanced telecommunications in rural areas
- Expanded flexibility of regulation through provisions for price flexibility and various alternative forms of regulation

General:

- Adopted alternative forms of regulation and innovative methodologies to adapt to increased competition in energy and telecommunications
- Expanded collaborative and alternative dispute resolution processes

Other Related Activities:

- Provided leadership in National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) on energy resources and consumer protection issues as well as international relations
- Member, U.S. Secretary of Energy Advisory Board Task Force on Strategic Energy Research and Development, 1994-95
- Member, Harvard Electricity Policy Group since 1999
- Extensive activity in international programs for exchange of regulatory experiences with an emphasis on basic regulatory agency responsibilities and capacity building

- Member, Advisory Board, New Mexico State University (NMSU) Center for Public Utilities, 1989 – 2001 and frequent faculty for electricity section of NMSU Basic's of Regulation courses

State Representative, District 39 (Eugene), Oregon State Legislature 1985-1987

As a state representative I developed consensus on major telecommunications and electricity legislation which led to broad-based support for my appointment to the Oregon PUC.

- Assistant Majority Leader, 1985 and 1987 Legislative Sessions
- Member, Energy and Environment Committee; Vice-chairman Business and Consumer Affairs Committee; and member, Trade and Economic Development Committee

District Office Representative for Congressman Jim Weaver, Oregon 4th District, Eugene, Oregon, 1976-1984

As district representative I acted as spokesperson, office manager, and public information officer for a Congressman who was intensely involved in energy issues, including the writing of the Northwest Power Planning and Conservation Act of 1980.

NARUC ACTIVITIES

As a Commissioner I was an active participant in the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners and served in various leadership capacities.

- Chairman, Energy Conservation Committee, 1991 - 1993
- Chairman, International Relations Committee 1996 - 1999
- Board of Directors, 1993 - 2001
- Ad Hoc Committee on Global Climate Change, 1994 - 2001
- Member, Committee on Electricity, 1999 – 2001

INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES

As a Commissioner I promoted and participated in many international communications and exchanges with other countries and helped establish NARUC's international program.

- Promoted U.S. commissioners involvement with regulatory agencies in other countries and became first chairman of NARUC Committee on International Relations
- Lead Commissioner for USAID/NARUC Regional Energy Regulatory Program for Central, Eastern Europe and Eurasia (CEE/Eurasia) assisting former Soviet Bloc countries with establishment of new regulatory agencies and resulting in the creation of a 15 country Energy Regulators Regional Association (ERRA).

- Lead Commissioner on two USAID/US Energy Association partnerships with newly formed regulatory agencies in Brasil and Zambia
- Invited speaker at international conferences on energy efficiency, renewable energy, integrated resource planning and impacts of restructuring and competition in Austria, Venezuela, Argentina, Brasil, Italy and Hungary.

EDUCATION

B.S. Journalism, 1970, University of Oregon, Eugene, OR

- President, Associated Students University of Oregon, 1970-71
- Editor, Oregon Daily Emerald, 1968-69

References provided upon request